Colorado River Aqueduct

FACTS
Concerning the
Colorado River
Aqueduct
and the
METROPOLITAN
WATER DISTRICT

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
of Southern California
HEADQUARTERS, 222 SOUTH HILL STREET
Los Angeles, California

COLORADO RIVER WATER A NECESSITY

State water records reveal that the people of Southern California during the past year actually consumed 62 billion gallons of water MORE than nature brings to this region annually, even under normal conditions. Every year the use of water is increasing because the population of the area constantly is growing. But nature is NOT increasing her allotment of water to this part of the Southwest.

The billions of gallons of water now being consumed in Southern California above the amount nature is giving us, are being taken from reserve underground water supplies. And these reserve supplies are being depleted.

It is obvious, therefore, that the growing cities of Southern California must tap a new water source. Fortunately, such a source is available in the Colorado River.

COLORADO RIVER AQUEDUCT

The Colorado River Aqueduct is being planned and will be constructed for the purpose of bringing to the numerous cities of Southern California a large additional supply of domestic water from the Colorado River.

This Aqueduct will be the largest domestic water supply system in the world. It is being designed to deliver ultimately to Southern California cities a continuous flow of 1500 second feet of water—enough to meet the needs of about 7,500,000 additional persons.

Under the direction of Chief Engineer Frank E. Weymouth, a six-year survey of the Aqueduct project now is being completed. More than 50,000 square miles of territory have been surveyed. As a result of this work, sixty-one (61) possible routes for the Aqueduct were projected and submitted for investigation.

SELECTION OF A ROUTE

Selection of a route for the Aqueduct has been placed in the hands of a Board of Review for recommendation to the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District. The Board of Review is composed of three internationally known engineers. These engineers are: Thaddeus Merriman, Chief Engineer of the New York City Water System; A. J. Wiley, Consulting Engineer of Boise, Idaho; Richard R. Lyman, Consulting Engineer of Salt Lake City.

Following two months of first hand inspection work and intensive study of accumulated data, the Board of Review in December of 1929 selected four general routes as the best of those proposed for consideration. Detailed engineering data upon each of the four possible routes is now being secured by a force of engineers working under the direction of Chief Engineer Weymouth.

With this exact data before them, members of the Board of Review will be able, at an early date, to proceed with the selection of the most practicable and economical route for the great Colorado River Aqueduct.

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT

Construction and operation of the Colorado River Aqueduct is to be under the direction of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

This District is a separate subdivision of the State of California. It was created under the terms of an Act adopted in 1927 by the State Legislature. At the present time eleven cities are included in the District, each one of the cities having joined through a vote of its citizens. These eleven cities are Anaheim, Beverly Hills, Burbank, Colton, Glendale, Los Angeles, Pasadena, Santa Ana, San Bernardino, San Marino and Santa Monica.

The District is governed by a Board of Directors, each one of the cities having at least one Director on the Board. The voting strength of the various communities is in proportion to its assessed valuation in comparison to the total assessed valuation of the entire District, with the important proviso that no city shall have more than 50 per cent of the total voting power of the District.

Other cities in Southern California desiring Colorado River water but not now in the District, may join the District by a majority vote of its citizens and upon securing the consent of the District Board of Directors.

March, 1930

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Headquarters,
222 So. Hill St., Los Angeles, Calif.

Chief Engineer
FRANK E. WEYMOUTH

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

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W. P. WHITSETT, Los Angeles

Vice-Chairman
FRANKLIN THOMAS, Pasadena

Secretary
S. H. FINLEY, Santa Ana

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Beverly Hills
PAUL E. SCHWAB

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Colton
CHAS. A. HUTCHINSON

Glendale
W. TURNEY FOX

Pasadena
FRANKLIN THOMAS

San Bernardino
W. O. HARRIS

Santa Ana
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HARRY L. HEFFNER

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JOHN G. BULLOCK
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JOHN R. RICHARDS
W. P. WHITSETT

OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT

CHARLES H. TOLL
Treasurer

GEORGE M. WELLS
Asst. Treasurer

W. O. HARRIS
Controller

A. L. GRAM
Executive Secretary

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